

North–South Corridor Study



June 16, 2010
Town of Queen Creek
Council Meeting

Federal Aid No. STP-999-AC(BBM)
ADOT Project No. SW PN 999 H7454 01L

Study Team – Key Personnel

Javier Gurrola, ADOT Predesign Project Manager

Rebecca Swiecki, ADOT Environmental Planning
Group Lead

Teresa Welborn, ADOT Public Involvement Lead

ADOT's Role

- Conduct studies to identify/evaluate highway alternatives
- Coordinate environmental evaluation
- Acquire rights-of-way
- Design and construct highways
- Maintain highways

FHWA's Role

- Serve as lead federal agency
- Participate in study process
- Provide environmental evaluation review
- Approve final documents
- Provide federal funding

Agencies' Role

- Provide input
 - Attend coordination meetings
 - Attend workshops
- Participate in decision-making process



Public's Role

- Ask questions
- Provide feedback
 - Through website
 - Call ADOT contact
 - Input at public meetings
- Tell us
 - What is important to you?
 - What are your concerns?



Study Overview

- US 60 to I-10
- Alternative Selection Report
- Location/Design Concept Report
- NEPA document (Environmental Impact Statement)



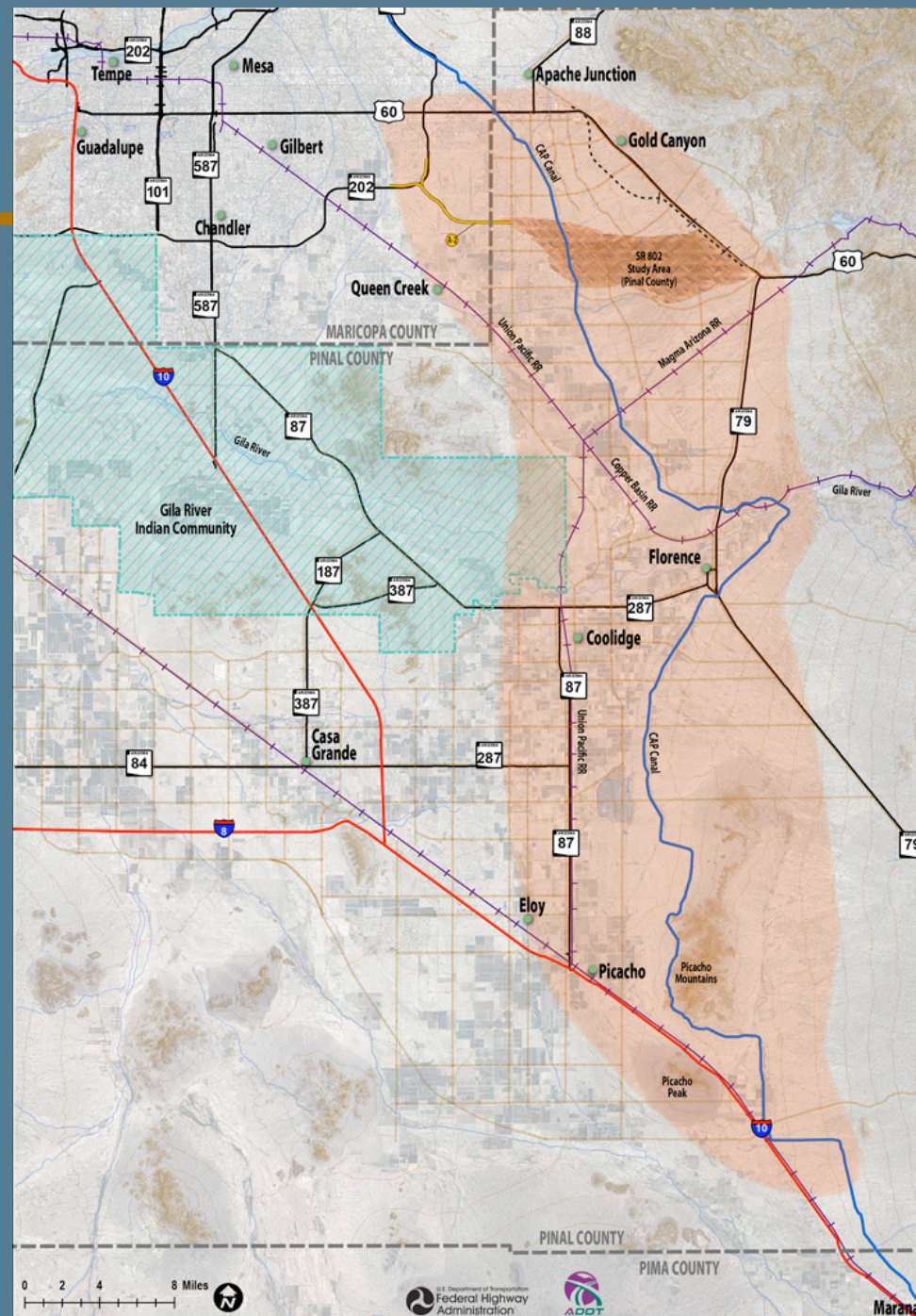
Study Objectives

- Define need for project
- Evaluate built and natural environments
- Gather input from all stakeholders
- Coordinate study with other planning initiatives
- Identify and assess solutions

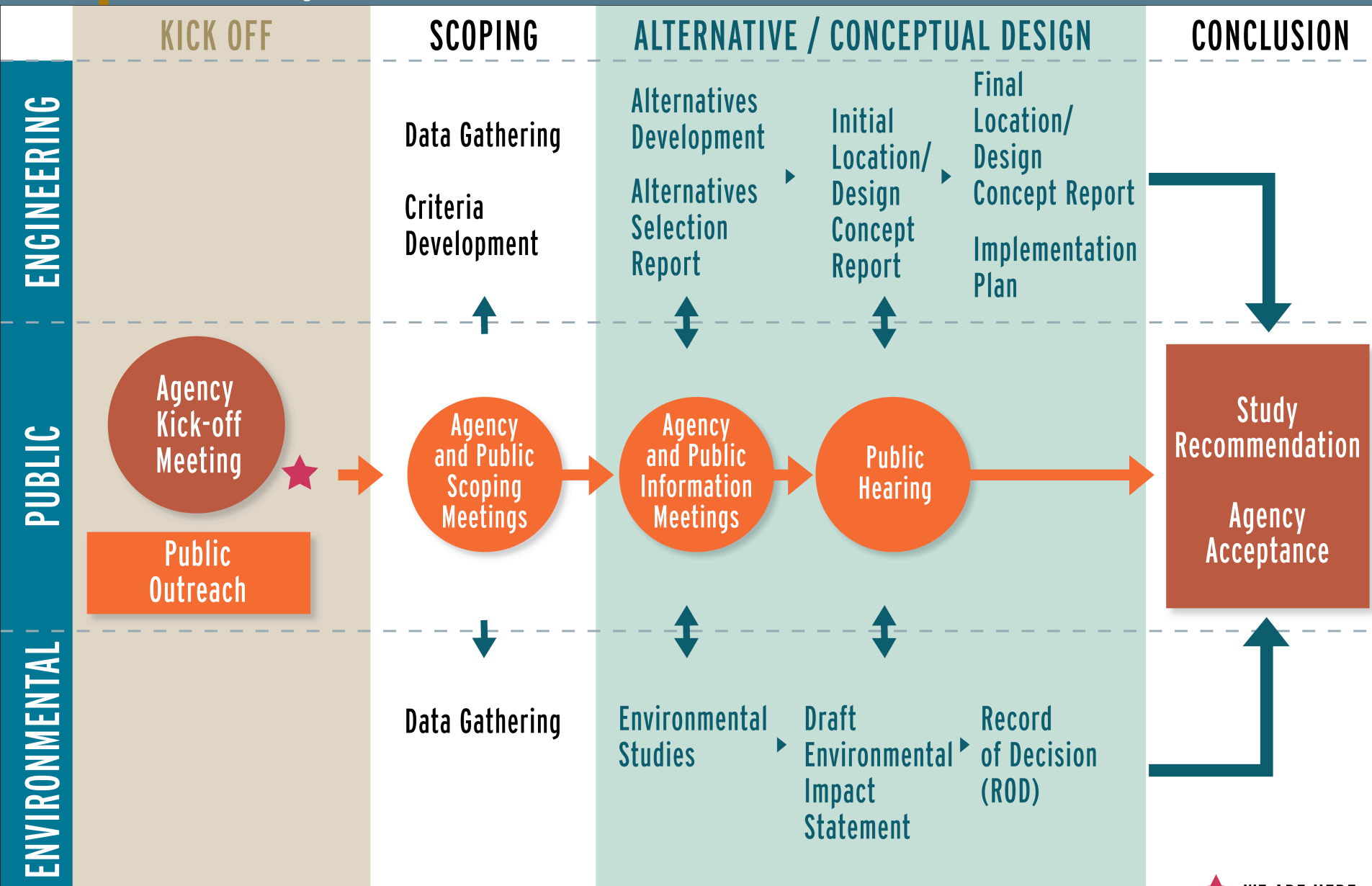
Study Area Features

- I-10 Interchange
- Picacho Fissure
- CAP Canal
- Picacho Reservoir
- Picacho Mountains
- Gila River
- Railroads
- SR 802 Interchange
- US 60 Interchange

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Study Process



Agency and Public Scoping

- Agency involvement process
- Public involvement process
- Expectations of stakeholders



National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

- Three levels of environmental documentation (CE, EA, EIS)
- ADOT current recommendation – an EIS with termini at US 60 and I-10



Environmental Studies

- Socioeconomic Considerations
- Environmental Justice
- Land Use
- Water Resources
- Noise
- Habitat Connectivity
- Secondary and cumulative impacts
- Air Quality
- Cultural Resources
- Biological Resources
- Visual resources
- Hazardous Materials
- Public parks/recreation and historic properties
- Neighborhood considerations

Engineering Elements

- Traffic analyses
- Development of alternatives
- Roadway capacity and geometrics
- Modal options
- Interchanges
- Rights-of-way
- Drainage
- Implementation plan

Alternative Selection Report (ASR)

- Identify and assess alternative corridors/alignments
- Work closely with environmental planners
- Focus on avoiding/minimizing/mitigating conflicts with physical constraints and natural resources
- Is combined with environmental analysis of alternatives (including a No-Build Alternative)

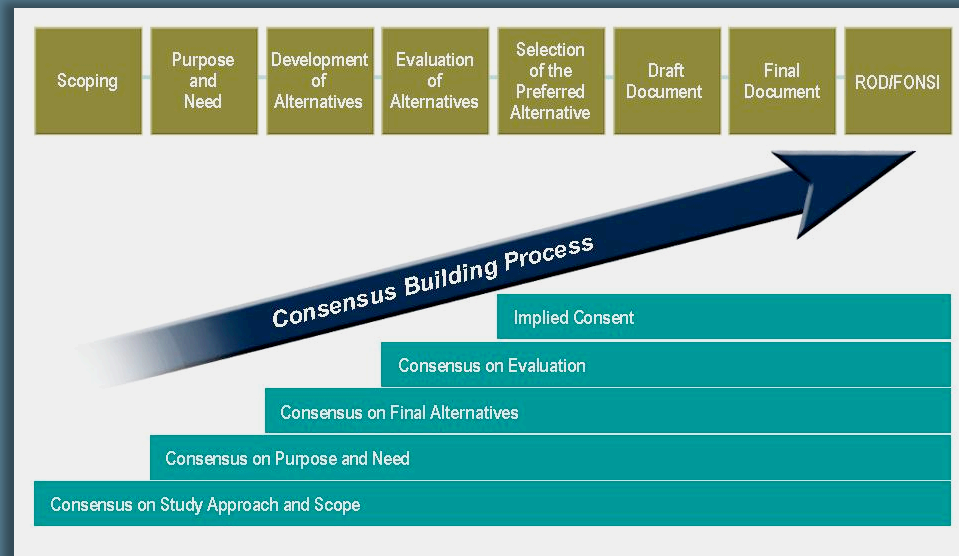
Location/Design Concept Report (L/DCR)

- Prepare L/DCR following the selection of Preferred Alternative(s)
- Develop right-of-way needs, implementation plan, and costs
- Assess and finalize preferred action
- Prepare Preliminary Design Plans for final alignment

Study Schedule

Overall schedule

- Nominally 3 years following Notice of Intent (NOI)
- NOI planned for summer 2010
- Engineering studies (ASR and L/DCR) will run concurrently with Environmental studies

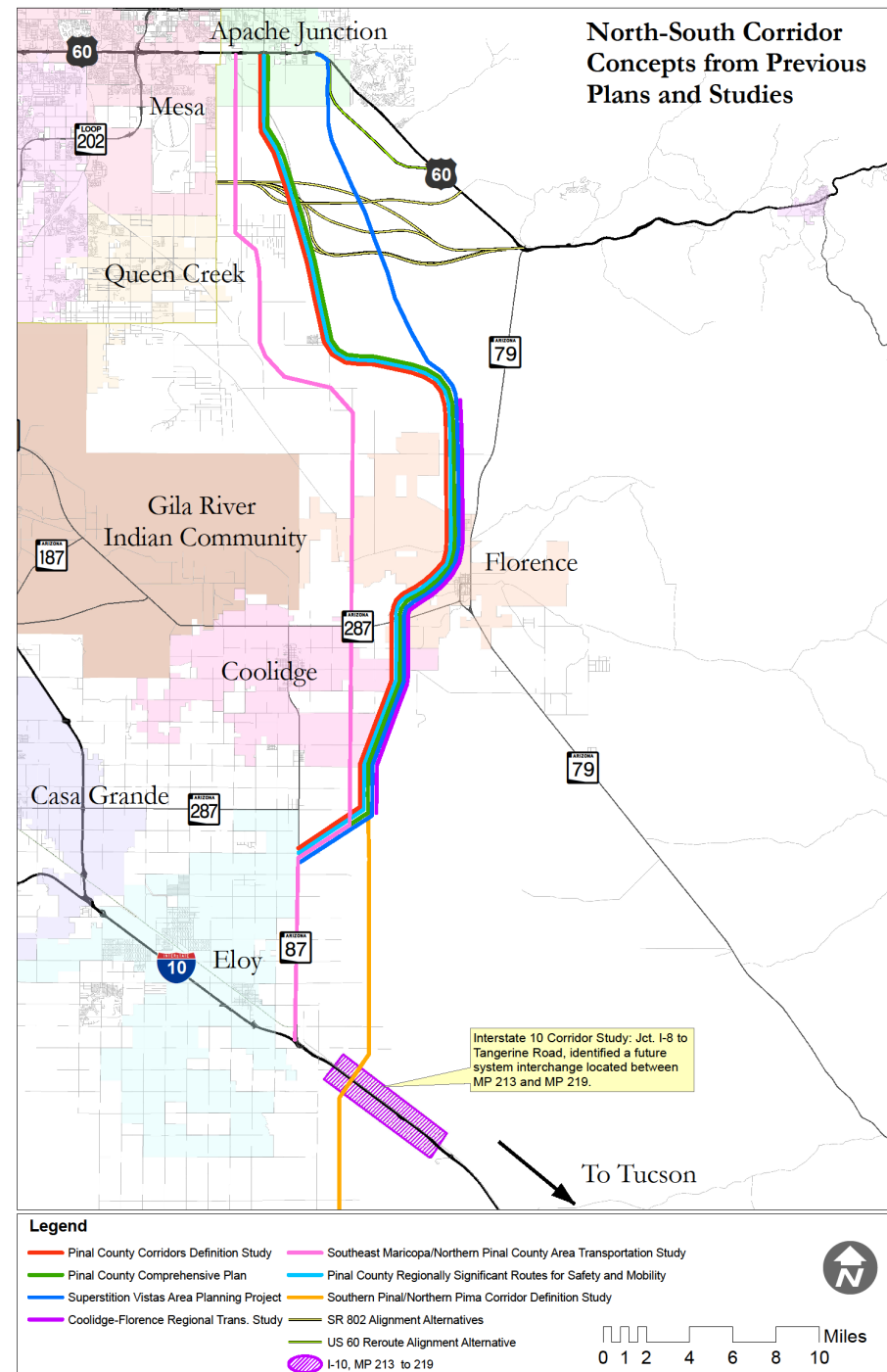


Work to Date

Reviewed over 10 prior studies

- Extensive public and agency input obtained through previous projects

North-South Corridor Study

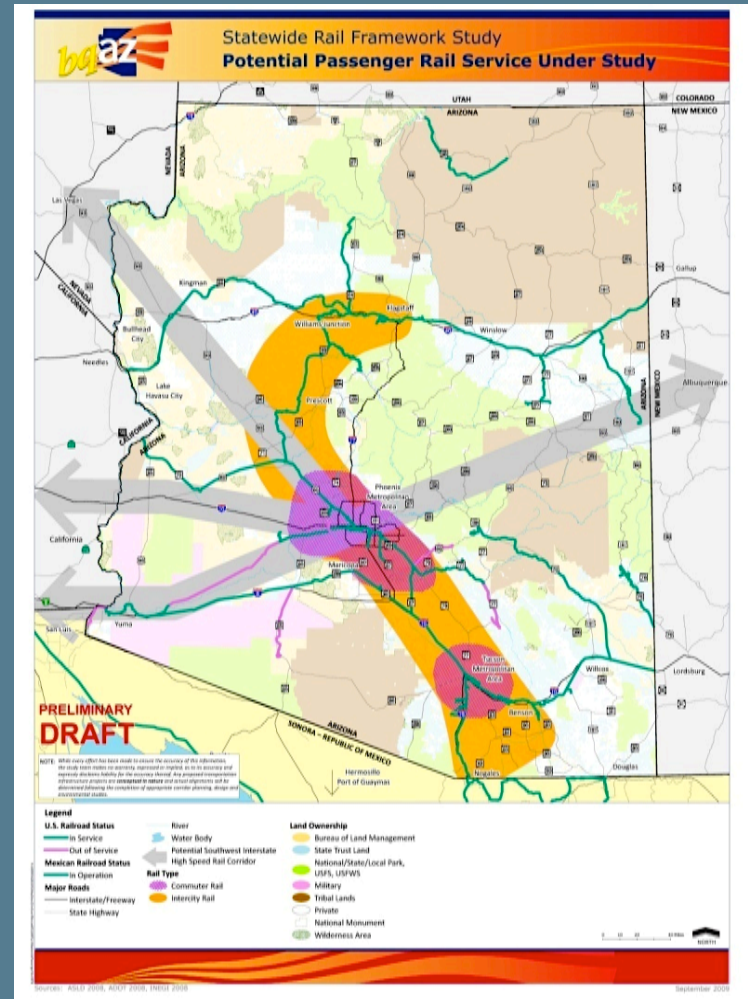


Work to Date (Continued)

- Focus on traffic modeling
 - Central Arizona Association of Governments
 - Maricopa Association of Governments
- Draft purpose and need criteria (for NEPA)
- Draft Notice of Intent (first step in NEPA EIS process)
- Coordinate with other ADOT studies
 - SR 802 (Williams Gateway Corridor) Study
 - I-10 Corridor Study, Jct I-8 to Tangerine Road
 - Arizona Rail Study

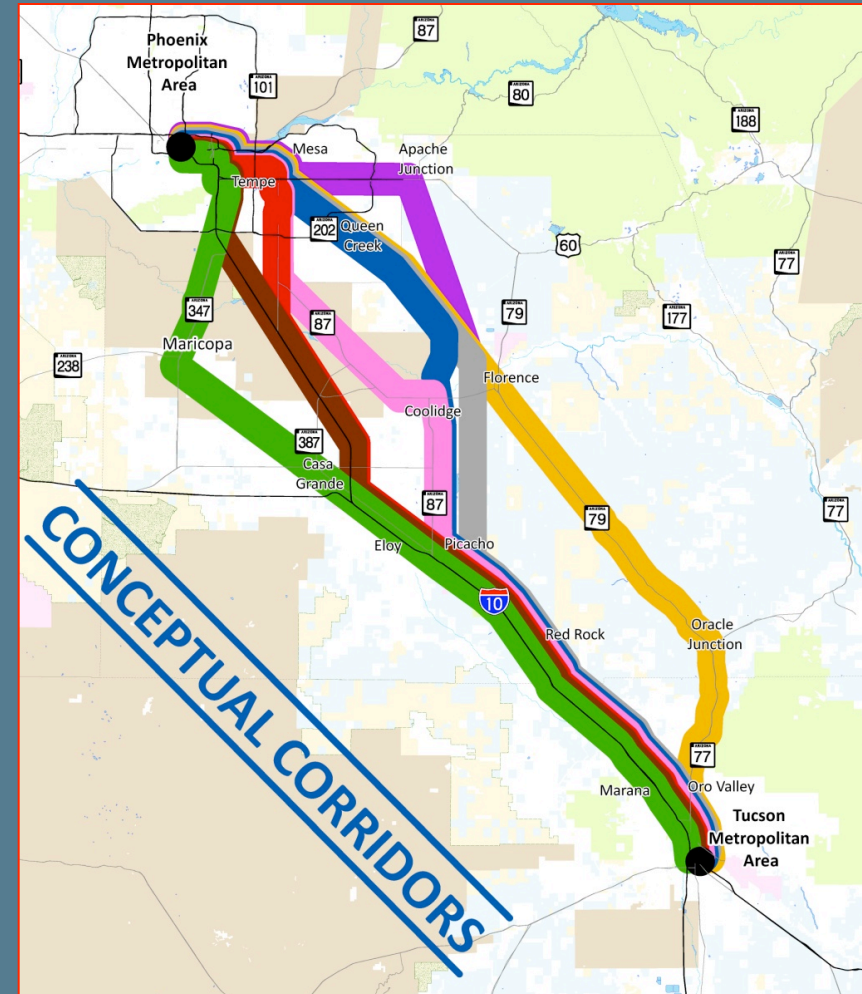
Coordination with Rail Study

- Arizona's Road to Rail
 - BqAZ Rail Framework Study
 - State Rail Plan
 - Daily Amtrak Service
 - Phoenix-Tucson Intercity Passenger Rail



Phx-Tuc Intercity Rail System

- Alternatives analysis
- Currently selecting consultant
- August kick-off
- Coordinate Phx-Tuc alternatives analysis with North-South Corridor Study



Current Activities

- Traffic modeling
 - Involves MAG and CAAG
 - Preliminary results due Spring 2010
- Purpose and need
 - Describe the “need” for the project
 - Draft has been delivered to ADOT
- Public involvement activities
 - Develop the Public Involvement Plan
 - Plan for agency and public scoping meetings
- Coordination Plan
 - Describes agencies’ role during the study
 - Draft has been delivered to ADOT

Next Steps

- Hold agency and public scoping meetings, information meetings and a public hearing
- Develop corridors based on public and agency input
- Conduct environmental investigations and analyses
- Prepare L/DCR and environmental documents
- Make study recommendation
- Make final decision

Public Contact Information

For more information or to submit comments:

- Please contact:

Angie Brown, Public Involvement Coordinator
520-327-6077

- Visit our website:

www.azdot.gov/northsouthcorridorstudy

Thank you!

Questions and Answers